

Michael Borg
Town Manager



TOWN OF NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH
43 South Washington Street
North Attleborough MA 02760
508-699-0100

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: Tuesday, December 9, 2025
TO: Town Clerk Pat McNielly
FROM: Michael Borg
CC: NAFD Chief Chris Coleman
DPW Director Mark Hollowell
RE: **Measure 2026-032-Proposal to adopt a Private Fire Hydrant Bylaw: To establish installation and maintenance standards for fire hydrants located on private property to ensure fire hydrants are in good working order for fire department suppression.**

Town Council Meeting- President Justin Paré
Measure 2026-032-Proposal to adopt a Private Fire Hydrant Bylaw: To establish installation and maintenance standards for fire hydrants located on private property to ensure fire hydrants are in good working order for fire department suppression.

Purpose and Justification:

The Town of North Attleboro has multiple residential developments and commercial properties with fire hydrants not maintained by the Water Department as they are classified as Private Fire Hydrants.

The North Attleboro Fire Department recently had two incidents where the fire hydrant caps could not be opened as they were ceased due to lack of maintenance. The first incident was a structural fire with a person trapped and the second was a brush fire where additional water supply was needed; however, every hydrant in the neighborhood could not be opened except for one. This bylaw will ensure that residential HOA's and commercial property owners inspect, maintain and test their fire hydrants annually and provide documentation of such information to our online data collection reporting software. This bylaw is being drafted to ensure the utmost safety of our residents and ensure we have an adequate water supply during fire conditions.

The Town Council met on October 27, 2025, and on behalf of the Town Council, a motion was made by Vice-President Lapointe to refer Measure 2026-032-Proposal to adopt a Private Fire Hydrant Bylaw: To establish installation and maintenance standards for fire hydrants located on private property to ensure fire hydrants are in good working order for fire department suppression to the Bylaw Sub-Committee for further review and consideration.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Simmons.

Motion carried 7-0.

The Bylaw Sub-Committee met on November 6, 2025, and on behalf of the Committee, a motion was made by Council Simmons to refer Measure 2026-032-Proposal to adopt a Private Fire Hydrant Bylaw: To establish installation and maintenance standards for fire hydrants located on private property to ensure fire hydrants are in good working order for fire department suppression back to the Full Town Council with a favorable recommendation.

The motion was seconded by Benharris.

Motion carried 4-0.

The Town Council met on November 24, 2025, and on behalf of the Town Council, a motion was made by Vice-President Lapointe to waive the first reading of Measure 2026-032-Proposal to adopt a Private Fire Hydrant Bylaw: To establish installation and maintenance standards for fire hydrants located on private property to ensure fire hydrants are in good working order for fire department suppression. The Public Hearing on this Measure will be held at the December 8, 2025 Town Council Meeting,

The motion was seconded by Councilor Simmons.

Motion carried 9-0.

The Town Council met on December 8, 2025, where a Public Hearing was held, and on behalf of the Town Council, a motion was made by Vice-President Lapointe to waive the first reading of Measure 2026-032-Proposal to adopt a Private Fire Hydrant Bylaw: To establish installation and maintenance standards for fire hydrants located on private property to ensure fire hydrants are in good working order for fire department suppression.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Simmons.

Motion carried 8-0.

VP Lapointe made a motion to open the Public Hearing.

Councilor Simmons seconded the motion.

Roll call vote was taken:

President Pare'	YES
VP Lapointe	YES
Councilor McCarthy	YES
Councilor Gould	YES
Councilor Donovan	YES
Councilor Simmons	YES
Councilor Costello	YES
Councilor Wagner	YES

Motion carried 8-0.

VP Lapointe made a motion to close the Public Hearing.

Councilor Simmons seconded the motion.

Roll call vote was taken:

President Pare'	YES
VP Lapointe	YES
Councilor McCarthy	YES
Councilor Gould	YES
Councilor Donovan	YES
Councilor Simmons	YES
Councilor Costello	YES
Councilor Wagner	YES

Motion carried 8-0.

VP Lapointe made a motion to approve Measure 2026-032-Proposal to adopt a Private Fire Hydrant Bylaw: To establish installation and maintenance standards for fire hydrants located on private property to ensure fire hydrants are in good working order for fire department suppression.

Councilor Simmons seconded the motion.

Roll call vote was taken:

President Pare'	YES
VP Lapointe	YES
Councilor McCarthy	YES
Councilor Gould	YES
Councilor Donovan	YES
Councilor Simmons	YES
Councilor Costello	YES
Councilor Wagner	YES

Motion carried 8-0.